

**HARVARD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
FEBRUARY 17, 2022
APPROVED: MARCH 3, 2022**

Chair Don Ritchie called the meeting to order at 7:12pm, virtually, pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, An Act Relative to Extending Certain COVID-19 Measures Adopted During the State of Emergency and signed into law on June 16, 2021, under MGL Chapter 131 §40 Wetland Protection Act and Code of the Town of Harvard Chapter 119 Wetland Protection Bylaw

Members Present: Don Ritchie, Wendy Sisson, Joanne Ward, Jim Burns and Eve Wittenberg (Associate Member)

Others Present: Liz Allard (Land Use Boards Administrator/Conservation Agent), Bruce Ringwall (GPR, Inc.), Wayne Cornell (Trail Ridge Home Owners Association) and Greg Bracett

Trail Ridge Request to Remove Tree within Conservation Restriction Area

Don Ritchie and Liz Allard provided their opinions pertaining to the removal of a pine tree located at the top of the slope behind building 10. The Commission agreed there was a potential for damage to property or human safety, but did not want this to be a catalyst to take all of the trees along the slope down. Jim Burns made a motion to allow the one pine tree, as shown this evening, be cut at a height that will not cause damage to the structures and the debris shall be left to decompose naturally within the area of the tree, but not in a single pile. Wendy Sisson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion by a roll call, Wendy Sisson, aye; Joanne Ward, aye; Jim Burns, aye; and Don Ritchie, aye.

Annual Appointments – Don Ritchie, Wendy Sisson & Eve Wittenberg

Don Ritchie stated those members up for reappointment will be contacted shortly by the Select Board office regarding their desire to be re-appointed.

Conflict of Interest & Ethics Training Requirements

The following members are delinquent on both Conflict of Interest and Ethics training as required by the State: Don Ritchie, Jim Burns Mark Shaw and Wendy Sisson. Paul Willard is delinquent on the Ethics Training. Not having these requirements met could affect one's re-appointment to the Commission.

Approval of Funding for Attendance at the MACC Annual Conference

Members will provide their selection of workshops to Liz Allard, who will submit them to MACC for invoicing. Ms. Allard is interested in taking a significant number of workshops this year and asked if the Commission was amenable to the associated cost of \$150.00; members were agreeable to this request.

Approve Minutes

Jim Burns made a motion to approve the minutes of February 3, 2022 as amended. Joanne Ward seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion by a roll call, Wendy Sisson, aye; Joanne Ward, aye; Jim Burns, aye; and Don Ritchie, aye.

Continuation of a Notice of Intent – Doug Schad, 74 Poor Farm Road, Harvard#0122-01. Opened at 7:30pm

Request to Amend the Order of Conditions – Luciano Manganello, 175 Littleton County Road, DEP#177-694. Opened at 7:31pm

Guidelines for the Use of the Reuben Reed Land

Wendy Sisson suggested a form rather than a policy or guidelines a form can be created that can be submitted to the Conservation Agent for approval of use of the land. Members were agreeable to this suggestion. Liz Allard will draft the form for the Commission's approval at a later date.

Pine Hill Village Update

Liz Allard stated a letter from the developer, Peter Cricones, was received early last week addressing the outstanding items detailed at the December 2, 2021 of the Commission. Most of the responses indicate information will be forthcoming or will be addressed in the Spring. Ms. Allard is drafting a response to this letter.

As decided upon at the previous meeting, Ms. Allard has sent a certified letter to the developer detailing the recent violations of the Order of Conditions with a warning that fines would be issued should violations continue. Ms. Allard visited the site this week and was disappointed to find a solution to the problem of silt getting into the drainage swale at the entrance of the property was to stuff a haybale in the swale. Ms. Allard feels problems on the site are being triaged but not resolved.

Adjournment

Jim Burns made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55pm. Wendy Sisson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion by a roll call, Wendy Sisson, aye; Joanne Ward, aye; Jim Burns, aye; and Don Ritchie, aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Allard,
Land Use Administrator/
Conservation Agent

EXHIBITS & OTHER DOCUMENTS

- Conservation Commission Agenda, dated February 17, 2022
- Trail Ridge Photos by Liz Allard, taken 2/17/2022

**Harvard Conservation Commission
Continuation of a Notice of Intent Hearing
Doug Schad, 74 Poor Farm Road, Harvard#0122-01
February 17, 2022**

The public hearing was opened at 7:30pm by Chair Don Ritchie under MGL Chapter 131 §40 Wetland Protection Act and the Code of the Town of Harvard Chapter 119 Wetland Protection Bylaw virtually, pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, An Act Relative to Extending Certain COVID-19 Measures Adopted During the State of Emergency and signed into law on June 16, 2021.

Members Present: Don Ritchie, Wendy Sisson, Joanne Ward and Jim Burns

Others Present: Liz Allard (Land Use Administrator/Conservation Agent) and Bruce Ringwall (GPR, Inc.)

This hearing was continued from February 3, 2022 on a Notice of Intent filed on behalf of Doug Schad for the construction of an accessory structure within the 100' wetland buffer zone at 74 Poor Farm Road, Harvard.

The Department of Environmental Protection file number has been received with no comments. Wendy Sisson made a motion to close the hearing and issue a standard Order of Conditions. Jim Burns seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion by a roll call, Wendy Sisson, aye; Joanne Ward, aye; Jim Burns, aye; and Don Ritchie, aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Allard,
Land Use Administrator/
Conservation Agent

**Harvard Conservation Commission
Request to Amend the Order of Conditions Hearing
Luciano Manganella, 175 Littleton County Road, DEP#177-694, Harvard#0820-04
February 17, 2022**

The public hearing was opened at 7:31pm by Chair Don Ritchie under MGL Chapter 131 §40 Wetland Protection Act and the Code of the Town of Harvard Chapter 119 Wetland Protection Bylaw virtually, pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, An Act Relative to Extending Certain COVID-19 Measures Adopted During the State of Emergency and signed into law on June 16, 2021.

Members Present: Don Ritchie, Wendy Sisson, Joanne Ward, Jim Burns and Eve Wittenberg (Associate Member)

Others Present: Liz Allard (Land Use Administrator/Conservation Agent) and Bruce Ringwall (GPR, Inc.)

This hearing is for a Request to Amend the Order of Conditions filed on behalf of Luciano Manganella to revise the utility connections to a single-family dwelling with temporary impacts to the wetland resource area and the 100' wetland buffer zone at 175 Littleton County Road, Harvard.

Bruce Ringwall, of GPR, Inc., stated as previously discussed with the Commission the plan has been amended for the installation of a powerline to the dwelling under the resource area (pond and bordering vegetated wetland) and the buffer zone. The site was reviewed by Don Ritchie, Jim Burns and Liz Allard. Mr. Ringwall provided clarification as to the location of the installation of the electrical service. Ms. Allard requested the erosion control barrier be extend to close the gap between the two existing barriers. In addition, Ms. Allard requested the recently revised barrier location uphill from the pond have silt socks added to the barrier.

Jim Burns made a motion to continue the hearing to March 3, 2022 at 7:30pm. Wendy Sisson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion by a roll call, Wendy Sisson, aye; Joanne Ward, aye; Jim Burns, aye; and Don Ritchie, aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Allard,
Land Use Administrator/
Conservation Agent